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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/038,312	11/09/2001	Jun-Il Hong	678-0625	7218

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THE FARRELL LAW FIRM, P.C.
333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD
SUITE 701
UNIONDALE, NY 11553

EXAMINER	
ZHOU, TING	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/23/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/038,312	HONG, JUN-IL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TING ZHOU	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *29 October 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on 29 October 2008 under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 10/038,312 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

2. The amendments filed on 29 October 2008, submitted with the filing of the RCE have been received and entered. Claims 1-5 as amended are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pinard U.S. Patent 5,898,432 and Horwitz et al. U.S. Patent 5,774,866 (hereinafter "Horwitz").

Referring to claim 1, Pinard teaches a method comprising the steps of registering one of the plurality of functions related to the individual state indicator corresponding to a current status change when the state change to be reflected in the representation of the individual state indicator occurs (upon occurrence of a status change, such as receipt of a telephone call, email, fax, etc., the appearance of an individual state indicator, i.e. the cursor, is changed to one which relates to the corresponding function related to the status change) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55); altering

the state representation of the individual state indicator corresponding to the current state change (changing the appearance of the cursor when a status change such as receipt of a call, email, fax, etc. occurs) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55; this is further shown in Figures 2-5); and invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input (action by the user of executing the invoked function of the cursor, i.e. user action of answering the telephone upon the display of the cursor indicating a telephone call, user running an application program to access an email upon the display of the cursor indicating a waiting email message, etc.) (Pinard: column 4, lines 5-55). However, Pinard fails to explicitly teach invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input for designating the individual state indicator. Horwitz teaches a method for the display of status indicators (such as the display of the alarm status flashing icon when conflicting search results are found) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15) similar to that of Pinard. In addition, Horwitz further teaches invoking the registered function of the state indicator upon receipt of a user input for designating the individual state indicator (the registered function of displaying selected information associated with the alarm status flashing icon, i.e. a list of potential matters which produced the conflicts, is invoked if the user selects the alarm status flashing icon) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15 and 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Pinard and Horwitz before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method for associating a function with an indicator of Pinard to include the use of executing the associated function upon selection of the icon taught by Horwitz. One would have been motivated to make such a

combination in order to allow users to respond to important indicator events such as alarms in a timely, convenient and user-friendly manner.

Referring to claim 2, Pinard teaches a method comprising the steps of registering one the plurality of functions related to the individual state indicator corresponding to a current status change when the state change to be reflected in the representation of the individual state indicator occurs (upon occurrence of a status change, such as receipt of a telephone call, email, fax, etc., the appearance of an individual state indicator, i.e. the cursor, is changed to one which relates to the corresponding function related to a status change) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55), altering the state representation of the individual state indicator corresponding to the current state change (changing the appearance of the cursor when a status change such as receipt of a call, email, fax, etc. occurs) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55; this is further shown in Figures 2-5), and invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input (action by the user of executing the invoked function of the cursor, i.e. user action of answering the telephone upon the display of the cursor indicating a telephone call, user running an application program to access an email upon the display of the cursor indicating a waiting email message, etc.) (Pinard: column 4, lines 5-55). However, Pinard fails to explicitly teach determining whether the coordinates of a touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input and invoking the registered function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator. Horwitz teaches a method for the display of status indicators (such as the display of the alarm status flashing icon when conflicting search results are

found) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15) similar to that of Pinard. In addition, Horwitz further teaches determining whether the coordinates of a touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input and invoking the registered function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator (the registered function of displaying selected information associated with the alarm status flashing icon, i.e. a list of potential matters which produced the conflicts, is invoked if the user selects the alarm status flashing icon; and using a touch screen input to make onscreen selections) (Horwitz: column 9, lines 2-6 and column 21, lines 1-15 and 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Pinard and Horwitz before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method for associating a function with an indicator of Pinard to include the use of executing the associated function upon touch screen selection of the icon taught by Horwitz. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to respond to important indicator events such as alarms in a timely, convenient and user-friendly manner.; furthermore, it would have been advantageous to make such a combination in order to avoid the inconvenience of attaching a mouse or keyboard to devices that are small in size, such as handheld devices like PDAs and cell phones.

Referring to claim 3, Pinard teaches a method comprising the steps of registering one of the plurality of functions related to the individual state indicator corresponding to a current status change when the state change to be reflected in the representation of the individual state indicator occurs (upon occurrence of a status change, such as indication of the receipt of a telephone call, email, fax, etc., the appearance of an individual state

indicator, i.e. the cursor, is changed to one which relates to the corresponding function related to a status change) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55), altering the state representation of the individual state indicator corresponding to the current state change (changing the appearance of the cursor when a status change such as receipt of a call, email, fax, etc. occurs) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55; this is further shown in Figures 2-5), and invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input (action by the user of executing the invoked function of the cursor, i.e. user action of answering the telephone upon the display of the cursor indicating a telephone call, user running an application program to access an email upon the display of the cursor indicating a waiting email message, etc.) (Pinard: column 4, lines 5-55). However, Pinard fails to explicitly teach determining whether a cursor or an input focus is positioned over a representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of a user button input, and invoking the registered function when the cursor or input focus is positioned over the representation area of the individual state indicator. Horwitz teaches a method for the display of status indicators (such as the display of the alarm status flashing icon when conflicting search results are found) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15) similar to that of Pinard. In addition, Horwitz further teaches determining whether a cursor or an input focus is positioned over a representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of a user button input (determining if the user has selected the icon through the input means) (Horwitz: column 9, lines 2-6 and column 21, lines 11-15), and invoking the registered function when the cursor or input focus is positioned over the representation area of the individual state indicator (the registered function of displaying selected information associated with the

alarm status flashing icon, i.e. a list of potential matters which produced the conflicts, is invoked if the user selects the alarm status flashing icon) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15 and 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Pinard and Horwitz before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method for associating a function with an indicator of Pinard to include the use of executing the associated function upon selection of the icon taught by Horwitz. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to respond to important indicator events such as alarms in a timely, convenient and user-friendly manner.

Referring to claim 4, Pinard teaches a method comprising the steps of registering a message reading function of the plurality of functions related to the message state indicator when the message arrives (for example, changing the cursor to the function of displaying an email message indicator among the plurality of related functions of displaying a telephone indicator, an alarm indicator, etc., upon receipt of a signal indicating an email message waiting to be read) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55); displaying the alteration of the representation of the individual message state indicator corresponding to the message arrival (changing the appearance of the cursor to display a message indicator, i.e. an email message indicator when a status change such as receipt of a new message /mail is occurs) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55; this is further shown in Figures 2-5), and invoking the message reading function upon receipt of a user input (action by the user of executing the invoked function of the cursor, i.e. user action of answering the telephone upon the display of the cursor indicating a telephone call, user running an

application program to access an email upon the display of the cursor indicating a waiting email message, etc.) (Pinard: column 4, lines 5-55). However, Pinard fails to explicitly teach determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the individual message indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input; and invoking the message reading function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator. Horwitz teaches a method for the display of status indicators (such as the display of the alarm status flashing icon when conflicting search results are found) (Horwitz: column 21, lines 1-15) similar to that of Pinard. In addition, Horwitz further teaches determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input and invoking the function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator (the registered function of displaying selected information associated with the alarm status flashing icon, i.e. a list of potential matters which produced the conflicts, is invoked if the user selects the alarm status flashing icon; and using a touch screen input to make onscreen selections) (Horwitz: column 9, lines 2-6 and column 21, lines 1-15 and 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Pinard and Horwitz before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method for associating a message reading function with an indicator of Pinard to include the use of executing the associated function upon touch screen selection of the icon taught by Horwitz. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to respond to important indicator events such as alarms in a timely, convenient and user-friendly manner.; furthermore, it would have been advantageous to

make such a combination in order to avoid the inconvenience of attaching a mouse or keyboard to devices that are small in size, such as handheld devices like PDAs and cell phones.

Referring to claim 5, Pinard teaches a method comprising the steps of registering an alarm function of the plurality of functions related to the individual alarm state indicator when the alarm is set (for example, changing the cursor to the function of displaying an alarm indicator among the plurality of related functions of displaying a telephone indicator, an email indicator, etc. upon receipt of a signal indicating the occurrence of an alarm) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55), displaying the alteration of the representation of the individual alarm state indicator corresponding to the alarm set (changing the appearance of the cursor to display an alarm indicator upon the occurrence of the alarm) (Pinard: column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55; this is further shown in Figures 2-5), and invoking an alarm function upon receipt of a user input (action by the user of executing the invoked function of the cursor, i.e. user action of answering the telephone upon the display of the cursor indicating a telephone call, user running an application program to access an email upon the display of the cursor indicating a waiting email message, etc.) (Pinard: column 4, lines 5-55). However, Pinard fails to explicitly teach determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input and invoking the individual alarm function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator. Horwitz teaches a method for the display of status indicators (such as the display of the alarm status flashing icon when conflicting search results are found) (Horwitz: column

21, lines 1-15) similar to that of Pinard. In addition, Horwitz further teaches determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the individual state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input and invoking the alarm function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the individual state indicator (the registered function of displaying selected information associated with the alarm status flashing icon, i.e. a list of potential matters which produced the conflicts, is invoked if the user selects the alarm status flashing icon; and using a touch screen input to make onscreen selections) (Horwitz: column 9, lines 2-6 and column 21, lines 1-15 and 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Pinard and Horwitz before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method for associating an alarm function with an indicator of Pinard to include the use of executing the associated function upon touch screen selection of the icon taught by Horwitz. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to respond to important indicator events such as alarms in a timely, convenient and user-friendly manner.; furthermore, it would have been advantageous to make such a combination in order to avoid the inconvenience of attaching a mouse or keyboard to devices that are small in size, such as handheld devices like PDAs and cell phones.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 10/29/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive:

5. The applicant states that each of claims 1-3 recites that the alteration of the state indicator corresponds to the current state change, claim 4 recites the alteration of the state indicator corresponds to the message arrival, and claim 5 recites that the alteration of the state indicator corresponds to the alarm set, and that the combination of Pinard and Horwitz does not teach these features. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Pinard teaches that the appearance of the cursor changes corresponding to the current state change, i.e. the cursor appearance changes when a status change such as receipt of a call, email, fax, alarm etc. occurs, as recited in column 1, line 59-column 2, line 10 and column 4, line 11-55. This is further shown in Figures 2-5; for example, when a current state change occurs, such as the receipt of a telephone call, the appearance of the cursor shown in Figure 2 changes to that shown in Figure 3 to represent the arrival of the new telephone call. Therefore, the examiner respectfully maintains that Pinard and Horwitz teach the subject limitations.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TING ZHOU whose telephone number is (571)272-4058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow can be reached on (571) 272-7767. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TZ
/Ting Zhou/
Examiner, Art Unit 2173

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